

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner has indicated that applicant has not filed a certified copy of Japanese Application No. 11-246417. A certified copy of this application is submitted herewith.

Claims 37-42, 44, 47-48, 51 and 54-55 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. With respect to claims 37, 44 and 51, the Examiner is unsure of the meaning of “first editing means”, “second editing means”, “data generating means”, “a display content program for setting a content of display”, “a control procedure program for setting a procedure of control”, “inherent data” and its relationship to the display content program, the data generating means, the screen data and the control program. The Examiner has also inquired as to what is meant by “control data which is inclusive of”.

In response to the Examiner’s inquiries, the “first editing means” is a screen generating editor 32b (see the specification of the present application, page 61), the “second editing means” is a ladder editor 32a (see the specification of the present application, lower part of page 59), and the “data generating means” is a copying function section 32e (see the specification of the present application, lower part of page 88).

“A display content program for setting a content of display” corresponds to the “user screen” described in BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION (see the last paragraph on page 53, continued to page 54). The user screen indicates a state of an input-output apparatus by display symbols (see the paragraph mentioned above and the second paragraph of page 61). Moreover, the user screen includes the screen data and the variable data (see the last paragraph on page 89, continued to page 90).

Meanwhile, the “control procedure program for setting a procedure of control” corresponds to the ladder program (user program) described in BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION (see the second paragraph on page 56). The user program specifies the procedure of controlling the operation of the input-output apparatus by controlling symbols that represent commands (see the last half of page 59). Moreover, the user program includes the control data and the variable data (see the last paragraph on page 89, continued to page 90).

The control data and the screen data respectively correspond to “inherent data” (see the last half of page 91 and first half of page 92).

The data generating means (copying function section 32e) causes the screen generating editor 32b to create a mark (display symbol), and causes the ladder editor 32a to create a ladder symbol (control symbol) (see the last half of page 88).

It is submitted that claims 37, 44 and 51, as amended herein, taken with the above-described clarifications, clearly answer the Examiner’s inquiries and obviate the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

With respect to the terms lacking antecedent bases in claims 38, 39 and 40, it is noted that the amended terms in these claims, as amended herein, all have proper antecedent bases, thereby obviating the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

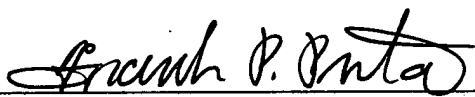
Pursuant to the Examiner’s request, there is submitted herewith an amended version of the specification, in its entirety, including all of the amendments made to the corresponding 371 application.

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In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that all of the elected claims 37-42, 44, 47-48, 51 and 54-55 should now be allowable to applicants, and formal allowance thereof is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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